

MINUTES OF THE FORTY-SIXTH MEETING OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

25 March 1955

Present

Members: John Lacey, State
Richard Bauer, Army
LTJG Richard W. Hanson, Navy

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Consultants: Elizabeth Landeau, State
Robert McHenry, Navy

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1. The 46th meeting convened at 1400 hours and the minutes of the 45th meeting were approved with the following emendations or qualifications:

a. Page 1, second line under NSA: delete "common" and add "communist."

b. Page 3, paragraph 3, second sentence: after the words "out of CIA" add "on China."

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c. Page 4, under NSA: [REDACTED] stated that NSA would be satisfied if FDD's China reports could include the characters for personal names, government units, organizations and place names.

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[REDACTED] stated that he would try to comply with this request.

d. Page 2, paragraph 4: Mr. Lacey said that he had been primarily concerned with the point that the classification warning should be made more prominent.

The Chairman stated that this will be done and that FDD was taking steps to keep all reports at the lowest possible classification within good security practice.

2. China Program (Continued)

Navy: Mr. McHenry stated that the desks of ONI have found the China reports very useful. It would be helpful if reference could be included to indicate graphics material of naval interest, such as ships, naval personnel, ports and harbors, etc. Indices of tables of contents of periodicals are of no interest to ONI and there is no objection to their discontinuance. Navy has no objections to the program changes proposed by FDD.

Periodicals

The Chairman stated that the Subcommittee should decide whether the periodical tables of contents should be eliminated in favor of an equivalent effort on periodical exploitation.

State: Mr. Lacey felt that we should keep some sort of control of periodical and monographic literature on a selective basis.

Army: Mr. Bauer concurred with Mr. Lacey.

Air Force: Mr. Bauer representing Air Force stated that Air would go along with the majority decision.

CIA: [REDACTED] agreed that FDD should screen out those periodicals which are not useful and at least annotate articles of interest.

Navy: Concurred.

The Chairman stated that if FDD can approach the periodicals on a selective basis based upon those subjects wanted by the consumers and report the essence of pertinent articles, it probably could be undertaken.

State and CIA agreed that such a report would be desirable.

Monographs

The Chairman stated that Foreign Branch of CIA Library is willing to put out a complete listing of Chinese books similar to the Russian Book List. They will provide some annotation of good material, and a mere listing of that which is not useful. He continued that FDD prefers to leave this with Foreign Branch due to the fact that any work done by the Division would have to be undertaken at the expense of some other part of the program.

25X1A9a [REDACTED] asked whether FDD would, in answer to a specific requirement by subject, search the monographic literature.

The Chairman stated that it would cover all the literature for subject coverage in answer to ad hoc requirements within manpower capabilities.

Mr. Lacey stated that some time ago Harvard, specifically Mr. Douglas Powell, prepared annotated bibliographies collated by selected subject categories. These were very important to State. The effort has been discontinued but is as badly needed now. If FDD could provide something of the sort State would be very happy.

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██████████ stated that this effort would be impossible with current manpower.

The Chairman asked whether this should not be put down as one of the specific needs to be reviewed by the Subcommittee for which manpower is not available with the view of making specific recommendations to the Advisory Committee on Foreign Language Publications.

The Subcommittee agreed.

The Chairman then summed up that it is understood that Foreign Branch, CIA Library will list all titles of Chinese monographs and FDD will accept ad hoc requests for research in monographs by subject or title.

The Subcommittee agreed.

3. Eastern Europe Program

Air Force: Mr. Bauer representing Air Force reported that they are completely satisfied with the program and have no recommended changes. Some duplication is noted with AID due to the fact that the latter must report certain information to meet specific Air Force needs but this can be kept at a minimum as FDD and AID take the matter up together.

The Chairman stated that FDD was more concerned with the duplication of the 7050th and 1142nd Air Intelligence Squadrons in Eastern Europe who have just begun to duplicate the work of FDD and AID and occasionally each other.

Army: Mr. Bauer stated that the Eastern Europe program is an extremely valuable service. The military report meets a serious need. The only complaint is that it is not as complete as Army would like it. It is too bad that the program could not have been started sooner as Army feels that a good deal of valuable information has been lost before the Satellites tightened their security. Civil defense items are being reported where found but the heading "Paramilitary" in the military report should also indicate "and Civil Defense." Army would rather see the items under "Internal Security" in the political report changed to the military report.

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██████████ concurred for NSA in having "Internal Security" moved from the political to the military report.

Navy, Air Force (Mr. Bauer) and CIA concurred.

Mr. Bauer stated that Army would like to see items of "self-criticism" included in the military report.

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██████████ will look into whether this can be done with current manpower.

State: Miss Landeau stated that FDD's coverage of the central press was not useful to State. She said it was too late, and was a duplication of information received ██████████ and US diplomatic post reports.

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██████████ stated that NSA did not find this to be so, and that they considered the FDD report more complete for their needs.

At this point a discussion arose as to whether the central press could be eliminated and all effort be directed to the provincial press or other publications.

Miss Landeau stated that State analysts had said that they do not even look at the FDD Eastern Europe reports at this time. She suggested that FDD receive the diplomatic post press reports and avoid duplication of their coverage.

The Chairman requested that the members review this matter and determine whether the diplomatic post press reports satisfied their needs, whether there is unnecessary duplication for their purposes, and what remedy should be made if so.

4. The agenda for the next meeting is the continuation of review of the Eastern Europe Program. The following meeting will be concerned with Southeast Asia.

5. The meeting adjourned at 1530 hours. The next meeting will be held on Friday, 15 April 1955, in Room 2125 M Building at 1400 hours.

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